

R01-16-R-002



Merrimack Valley Planning Commission

*plan * develop * promote*

December 17th, 2015

Submitted Through Grants.Gov

Subject: FFY16 EPA Brownfields Revolving Loan Fund (RLF) Grant Proposal
Merrimack Valley Planning Commission, Haverhill, MA

Dear Sir/Madam:

The Merrimack Valley Planning Commission (MVPC) is pleased to submit the attached Merrimack Valley Grant Proposal for funding consideration under the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's FY16 Brownfields RLF Program. MVPC has administered a successful RLF program that given pending caseload will be fully expended in 2016. We are seeking fund recapitalization to sustain our site remediation and redevelopment efforts throughout the Merrimack Valley.

Through the RLF, MVPC able to provide additional funding to newer projects that have resulted from our assessment activities and recent private sector interest in the Merrimack Valley's fifteen communities. Our program target central cities of Lawrence, Haverhill and Methuen are beginning to see a resurgence of developer interest after slow recovery since the Recession. Prominent among the opportunities are several long-neglected brownfield properties along waterfronts, gateway transportation corridors as well as in central business districts.

This Brownfields RLF grant request for \$1,000,000 will enable MVPC and its partner communities to facilitate the cleanup, and ultimately the redevelopment, of priority contamination sites. With many of the region's communities constrained by tight local budgets, all-volunteer boards, and only part-time staff, the capacity need is urgent for a collaborative, regional approach to site restoration and redevelopment. MVPC's successful Merrimack Valley Brownfields Assessment and Merrimack Valley Brownfields RLF programs are broadly supported by the municipalities and the business community, and represent a positive step toward meeting this need.

Key applicant information follows:

a. Applicant: Merrimack Valley Planning Commission, 160 Main Street, Haverhill, MA 01830

b. DUNS Number: 052661659

c. Funding Requested:

i. Grant Type: Revolving Loan Fund (Jurisdiction-wide)

ii. Amount: \$1,000,000; No cost-share waiver is requested.

iii. Contamination: Hazardous Substances (\$750,000) & Petroleum (\$250,000)

d. Location: Merrimack Valley Planning District, consisting of 15 municipalities: Amesbury, Andover, Boxford, Georgetown, Groveland, Haverhill, Lawrence, Merrimac, Methuen, Newbury, Newburyport, North Andover, Rowley, Salisbury, and West Newbury. All 15 municipalities will be covered by the proposal, however the primary target area will be the three densely-developed and economically-distressed urban centers of Haverhill, Lawrence, and Methuen.

e. Contacts:

i. Project Director: Joseph M. Cosgrove/Brownfields Prog. Mgr, Merrimack Valley Planning Commission, 160 Main Street, Haverhill, MA 01830; Phone: 978-374-0519; Fax: 978-372-4890; E-mail: jcosgrove@mvpc.org

ii. Chief Executive Official: Dennis DiZoglio, Exec. Director, Merrimack Valley Planning Commission, 160 Main Street, Haverhill, MA 01830; Phone: 978-374-0519; Fax: 978-372-4890; E-mail: ddizoglio@mvpc.org

f. Date Submitted: December 17th, 2015

g. Project Period: October 1, 2016 to September 30, 2021 (Five Years)

h. Population (Census 2010):

i. District (15 member communities): 333,748;

ii. RLF Program Target Area (Cities of Haverhill, Lawrence, Methuen): 184,511

i. Other Factors Checklist: The other factors checklist for our region is attached.

We thank you in advance for your consideration of our grant application. Should have any questions or require clarification on any elements of this proposal, please call me at (978) 374-0519.

Sincerely,



Dennis DiZoglio
Executive Director

Cc: Chris Lombard, EPA Region 1
Frank Gardner, EPA Region 1

APPENDIX 3

RLF OTHER FACTORS CHECKLIST

Name of Applicant: Merrimack Valley Planning Commission

Other Factor	Page #
None applicable	
Community population is 10,000 or less	X p.1
Applicant is, or will assist, a federally recognized Indian tribe or U.S. territory	
Targeted brownfield sites are impacted by mine-scarred land.	
Applicant demonstrates firm leveraging commitments for facilitating brownfield project completion by identifying ams and contributors of funding in the proposal and have included documentation	X p6; pp 9-11
Recent (2008 or later) significant economic disruption has occurred within the community resulting in a significant % loss of community jobs and tax	X pp.1-5
Applicant is recipient/core partner of "manufacturing community" designation by EDA	
Applicant is recipient/core partner of HUD/DOT/EPA Partnership for Sustainable Communities	
Applicant is recipient of EPA Brownfields Area-Wide Planning Grant	

MVPC NARRATIVE PROPOSAL

1. Community Need-

Targeted Community Description. The Merrimack Valley Planning Commission (MVPC) district encompasses 15 cities and towns with a population of 333,748 people in the Merrimack River Valley of Essex County, MA. Merrimack Valley factories, centered in the core cities of Lawrence, Haverhill and Methuen, led the 19th century American industrial revolution. The region has endured decades of economic transition since the 1950's--the decline of the dominant textile and leather industries, suburbanization, the boom and bust of the plating industry, & successive waves of new immigrants, the most recent primarily from Latin America and Asia. Long-term unemployment, wage stagnation, high poverty rates and a legacy of industrial-era environmental contamination continue to be structural barriers to economic revitalization. These structural challenges persist in spite of recent recovery in real estate and business activity since the Great Recession of 2008-2009 which burdened the region with high-profile plant closings and job losses. In spite of the long-term industrial base decline in our region, manufacturing continues to be an important economic sector in the Merrimack Valley, 20.8% of all private sector jobs in 2013, compared to 8.9% in Massachusetts (Bureau of Labor Statistics).

The region is designated an Economic Development District by the U.S. Economic Development Administration because of the economic distress indicators and brownfield conditions throughout the 15-community Merrimack Valley region but most pronounced in the immigrant Gateway cities of Lawrence, Haverhill, and Methuen, which MVPC has targeted for Brownfields Program outreach. According to the 2010 U.S. Census & UMass Donahue Institute, the core cities are home to 55% of the region's population and 45% of the region's employment. These cities' landscapes are dominated still by large mill complexes which for generations supplied tens of thousands of jobs and were the mainstay of the regional economy. Many of the mill buildings, now vacant or underutilized as storage or warehousing, are magnets for trespass, vagrancy, arson and illicit drug use and production. Similarly, metal plating shops that briefly took root across our region in the latter half of the 20th century are now shuttered urban blight properties. Redevelopment of these sites for uses that can contribute to community economic health is hindered by the presumption of environmental contamination. In spite of the many challenges, these properties provide great opportunities without our dense urban cores, often centered near public transit and close to the Merrimack River or one of tributaries. Our cities have begun to take advantage of these opportunities by enacting changes in zoning that encourage robust, sustainable development focused on our greatest concentration of brownfield sites.

With the current cycle of economic recovery and resurgence in real estate activity, the region is positioned to make more significant and visible achievement in Brownfield community-based revitalization plans. After slow recovery from the Recession, the region's communities are actively working with private developers on planning, permitting and fledgling construction of downtown & waterfront brownfield developments. Petroleum and/or hazardous material contamination complicates financing and adds unknown costs to redevelopment efforts. Our regional Brownfields program will be a critical resource tool to spur redevelopment in the target area central Gateway cities and to promote sustainable land use development in the 12 other Merrimack Valley communities. While these smaller cities & towns lack the density and scale of the core cities, they have highly visible brownfield sites along waterfronts and in their central business districts. Eight of our 15 communities have populations of less than 10,000 people; yet cumulatively these eight have 309 MassDEP identified contaminated brownfields. These communities have limited in-house planning staff capacity, constrained access to financing, and lack of qualified developer interest for investing in complicated, high-risk real estate transactions. For these communities, the regional Brownfields Program can fill a much needed void and, as a region-wide program, provide a coordinating process to maximize the transformative impact of environmental remediation work in the Merrimack Valley.

1.a.ii. Demographic Information. Census data show how our target communities, a century after the height of the region's industrial peak, continue to function as immigrant Gateway communities. Unemployment, poverty, & ethnic diversity rates are well above the state and national averages.

The City of Lawrence ranks lowest per capita income (\$16,987; 2009-13 American Community Survey) and highest unemployment rate in Massachusetts (MA Dept. of Labor&Workforce Development). The population of Lawrence, a city of less than 7 square miles, declined by a third between the 1920s & the 1980s, driven by industrial mill closure and suburbanization. New immigrants from the Caribbean and Central and South America have spurred current population growth. Over the past decade, as Lawrence's overall population grew by 6%, according to the 2010 U.S. Census, the Latino share of the population increased 31%. Today 76,377 people live in Lawrence, **74% of whom are of Hispanic origin and 34% foreign born.** Neighboring Gateway Cities of Haverhill and Methuen, also with older mill districts and dense central urban residential areas have experienced similar demographic changes and economic challenges that justify targeting Haverhill's central Lower-Acre Mill District (Census Tracts 2601, 2606, 2607, and 2608) and Methuen's Downtown/Arlington Neighborhood (Census Tracts 2523 and 2524).

	Target Community - Lawrence	Target Neighborhood - Haverhill	Target Neighborhood - Methuen	Massachusetts	National
Population ¹ :	76,820	18,816	10,474	6,605,058	311,536,594
Unemployment ² :	13.0%	13.5% ³	10.1% ³	6.3%	5.3%
Poverty Rate ¹ :	26.5%	22.2%	13.5%	8.1%	11.3%
Percent Minority ¹ :	79.5%	37.3%	48.5%	20.6%	36.7%
Median Household Income ¹ :	\$32,851	\$46,347	\$44,377	\$66,866	\$53,046
% Language Spoken at Home Other than English ¹	75.6%	33.2%	45.1%	1,367,082 (21.9%)	60,361,574 (20.7%)
Percent Educational Attainment <9th Grade ¹	9,373 (20.5%)	9.2%	12.7%	218,530 (4.8%)	12,272,805 (5.9%)
% of Households with Food Stamp Benefits ¹	38.4%	22.0%	16.0%	11.7%	12.4%
¹ Data is from the 2009-2013 American Community Survey. ² Data is from the Bureau of Labor Statistics, available at www.bls.gov					

Brownfield Impacts on Targeted Community

Today, remnants of our industrial legacy are Brownfields, located throughout the region and particularly concentrated in the urban centers of our target communities. Blighted properties continue to be a threat to our environment, our health and safety, and our economy. MVPC has identified over 3,000 vacant lots and underutilized spaces in Lawrence, Haverhill, and Methuen. Efforts are underway to convert abandoned residential lots and alleys in these cities into community gardens and 'pocket' parks. Lawrence is partnering with EPA, MVPC and others in the "Making a Visible Difference" planning initiative focused on the Spicket Rail Trail corridor. These sites and planning area corridor face significant brownfield challenges that have long hamstrung property reuse efforts. Whole city blocks are hollowed out by giant mill complexes full of lead and asbestos-contaminated buildings with soil impacted by PAHs, petroleum, arsenic, lead, cadmium, and other metals. Abandoned metal plating facilities, often just yards from residential properties, are sources of groundwater contamination with chlorinated solvents that pose significant risk of vapor intrusion to neighbors. The many abandoned & dilapidated gasoline service stations and auto body repair shops that

dot our region stand as another visible indicator of economic distress.. These sites pose potential risk for gasoline, fuel oil, waste oil, and lead contamination. MassDEP maintains inventories of waste sites across Massachusetts. Below is a snapshot of Merrimack Valley region contaminated properties (Nov. 2015 data).

Community	Hazardous &/or Petroleum Sites Identified by MassDEP
Lawrence	373
Haverhill	361
Methuen	239
Total MV Brownfields Outreach Target	973 (49% of region total)
12 non-Gateway MV Communities	1,012 (51% of region total)
Total Merrimack Valley (MV) RegionProgram Area (15 communities)	1,985

1.a.iv. Cumulative Environmental Issues. The Merrimack Valley industrial history has left a legacy of unintended problems that the region continues to grapple with while attempting to balance economic development and environmental interests. The Merrimack River and its tributaries provided power and transport to the mills. Rivers were dammed, channelized, diverted into canals, buried in culverts, and used for disposal of industrial and biological wastes for the convenience or short-term benefit of industries that have long since left our region. The consequences have been increased risk of flooding, contaminated sediments along stream banks, and collapse of native anadromous fish populations – salmon, shad, sturgeon, and striped bass – that once seemed inexhaustible. Flooding risk is a paramount concern with vulnerability heightened by the impacts of climate change. The Spicket River, which flows through the Arlington Neighborhood of Methuen and Lawrence, is a major flooding concern. The area has endured at least four 100-year floods over the past twenty years. Significant portions of Haverhill's Lower Acre mill district are within the 100-year floodplain of the Little River, which is slowed by a nearly 200-year-old stone dam and contained in a concrete conduit beneath downtown. The conduit periodically clogs with debris, exacerbating the flooding problem in the Lower Acre **When 15 inches of rain fell in the region during a three-day 2006 storm, causing the worst flooding since 1936, Haverhill's overwhelmed combined sewer stormwater system dumped 35 million gallons of waste per day into the Merrimack River.** Frequency and intensity of major storms has increased with severe regional flooding in 2009 and 2010; record snowfall in Winter 2014/15 prompted a federal emergency declaration and again highlighted the vulnerabilities of the region's public infrastructure. (*Region Multi-Hazard Plan Update 2015*).

1.b. Impacts on Targeted Communities. Our region's contaminated soil, groundwater, and rivers have a disproportionate impact on residents of our target communities. Lawrence General Hospital reported in its 2013 Community Health Needs Assessment that premature mortality rates (death before age 75 per 100,000 population) in Haverhill and Lawrence were 325.4 and 292.0 per 100,000 people, respectively—significantly higher than the statewide rate of 273.6 premature deaths per 100,000. In Lawrence, our region's largest city and target area core, the health challenges are daunting:

- **Population significantly younger** (29% under age 18 versus 22% statewide). Youth are more at risk to the effects of toxic agents due to the active development of sensitive organ systems (e.g., the brain and reproductive organs) and the inability of the immature body to efficiently cope with chemical exposure.
- **High percentage of individuals of Hispanic ethnicity** (74% versus 9.6% statewide). More than 1/3 of Lawrence's Dominican origin population live in poverty. (2009-13 ACS); Hispanics face barriers in health

care access and are disproportionately without health insurance. According to a 2014 Blue Cross Blue Shield study, Hispanics are 22% of the uninsured nonelderly population in MA.

- ***Infant mortality rate 25% higher than the state rate*** along with a *25% decrease in mothers receiving adequate prenatal care* and a *nearly 3-fold increase in births to adolescent mothers*. Stresses already evident on a sensitive infant population due to a lack of care or a developmentally immature mother can be greatly exacerbated by the addition of chemical stresses, either during fetal development or in the years following birth.
- Statistics on ***mortality, hospitalizations, and emergency rooms visits due to asthma*** as well as ***overall asthma rates in 0-4 year olds, 5-14 year olds, and 15-34 year olds*** are all ***between 1.5- and 3-fold higher than state rates***. Asthma prevalence is linked to environment and is exacerbated by airborne particulates due, in part, to the presence of large trash incinerators and regional transportation facilities.

(Sources: Mass. Department of Public Health and Boston University School of Public Health for Massachusetts Prevention Center)

In addition to the above public health risks, the hundreds of abandoned buildings in our target communities represent an ongoing *fire safety threat* to area residents and property. Vacant buildings are magnets for vagrancy, illicit drug use, and arson. On January 13, 2014 a four alarm fire broke out in the former Merrimac Paper Co. mill in downtown Lawrence. Due to the deteriorated conditions in the mill, the Lawrence Fire Department had the building on their do-not enter list, and were constrained in combating the blaze. On September 20th 2015, arson at the brownfields target Stevens Mill gutted the northern wing of the massive mill structure and led to road closures and evacuations as state and local officials worked over a week to control the fire and clean up the site. (Eagle-Tribune) Blighted industrial properties are also disproportionate sources of stormwater contamination, as they are within our urban settings without on-site filtration (In Lawrence and central target neighborhoods of Methuen and Haverhill, approximately 54% of the land area is impervious surface, compared to 14% region-wide). This leads to increased stormwater flow into overtaxed, outdated, in some circumstances combined sewer/stormwater and release of waste pollutants directly to our rivers during significant rainfalls. Studies have shown that rates of fish consumption from local waters are higher among environmental justice communities (Fish Consumption and Environmental Justice, EPA 2002), exposing residents of our target communities to greater amounts of contaminants in fish tissue.

1.c. Financial Need

1.c.i. Economic Conditions

MVPC is a regional planning agency dependent on federal, state and foundation grant funding for multi-community initiatives. Existing Brownfields Assessment resources available through our program to the 15 communities are depleted at a time when renewed developer interest in brownfield properties has generated more demand for environmental site assessments. Our targeted Gateway communities are among the poorest urban areas in the Commonwealth with municipal budgets dependent on state aid and property tax revenue increases capped at 2.5% annually.

Housing Conditions: According to U.S. Census data, the last Recession left a significant increase in vacant homes in each of the three target communities. Haverhill, Lawrence, and Methuen housing vacancies rose nearly 90% last decade. In coordination with the MVPC Brownfields Program and in response to a high number of distressed properties in abandonment or foreclosure, Methuen and Haverhill set up a property receivership programs to compel property maintenance. The demand for safe, affordable housing is still not yet met. When the Archdiocese of Boston partnered with Haverhill converting a former school in the City's Lower Acre to 12 units of housing, more than 400 income eligible families applied for residence in Fall 2015.

Major Plant Closures and Job Losses: Our region was hard hit by a number of high profile plant relocations and closures after the 2008-9 Recession. Lucent Technologies at one time employing over 10,000 in the region, terminated or relocated the firm's final 400 workers from its all-but-vacant 1.5 million square foot manufacturing facility in 2008. Pfizer announced a five-year plan in 2010 to eliminate 300

manufacturing jobs in Andover. *The closing of the Haverhill Paperboard Corporation in 2008* meant the loss of **174 jobs**. In 2014, Converse moved its headquarters from North Andover to Boston, impacting **400 workers** and most recently Dec. 2015, Polartec, the Lawrence textile manufacturer that survived a 1995 catastrophic fire and three bankruptcies, announced plans to move 200 manufacturing jobs out of state over the next 18 months. (Eagle-Tribune 12/11/2015) Public sector jobs in our region have been equally hard hit; municipal employment decreased by 4.7% from 2006 to 2013. (MA Labor & Workforce Dev. Office)

Lack of Local Financial Capacity: All three target communities lack the means to fund site cleanups using local resources alone. Their annual operating budgets are already severely strained, with the demands for even basic services – schools, public works, police and fire protection – outstripping the available revenues. Lawrence is Massachusetts' poorest City where median household income fell 20% between 1980 and 2010. In the wake of the financial crisis, the City was forced to cut Public Safety budgets, and subsequently experienced a 63% increase in violent crime, according to the Lawrence Police Department. In recent years, numerous cost-cutting measures have been invoked by all three communities, including service regionalization, hiring freezes and layoffs of various department personnel. The cuts have impacted capacity of municipal government to undertake community development initiatives including Brownfields remediation and redevelopment. The sheer magnitude of the Brownfields problem (over 250 sites in a compact 14-sq.mi. area) overwhelms the community resources to tackle this problem. The smaller towns face additional obstacles without adequate community development planning or project management staff capacity. Major outside investments, both private and public, are needed and are spurring regional efforts including the Merrimack Valley Brownfields Assessment and Revolving Loan Fund programs as well as the Regional Stormwater Collaborative and Merrimack Valley Economic Development initiatives.

1.c.ii. Economic Effects of Brownfields. The prevalence of brownfield sites in our region, especially in our urban core communities of Lawrence, Haverhill, and Methuen, has a severe, ongoing impact on our regional and local economies and workforce. All three cities are among the 26 municipalities designated by the Commonwealth as immigrant Gateway communities and prioritized by state agencies for economic development assistance. As defined in Chapter 23A of Mass. General Laws enacted in 2009, Gateway Cities are midsize urban centers that anchor regional economies and face stubborn social and economic challenges while retaining "many assets with unrealized potential." These communities, which all had a legacy economic base in manufacturing, have struggled as the state's economy shifted toward skills-centered knowledge sectors (increasingly clustered in and around Boston). Lawrence, our largest city, has been federally-designated a HUB Zone by the U.S. Small Business Administration, providing financing incentives for small businesses. It is the poorest city in the state, with the lowest per capita and median household income (U.S. Census ACS 2009-2013). One in four families lives in poverty, and unemployment rates consistently hover at twice the regional, state, and national averages. The home ownership rate is only 31% citywide and is 12% in the North Side/Arlington neighborhood. Additionally, over 30% of the population has limited English proficiency and fewer than 70% of adult residents have a high school diploma or equivalent. Redevelopment within dense urban Merrimack Valley communities always involves some levels of environmental contamination. Potential of unknown costs and liability concerns complicate financing of real estate deals. The regional Brownfields Program is one of the few resources communities can use to catalyze sustainable development at blighted properties and take steps to reverse neighborhood disinvestment.

2. RLF Program Description and Feasibility of Success

i. Program Description. The Merrimack Valley region's *Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy* and local redevelopment plans all identify the cleanup and reuse of Brownfields sites as central to the area's overall economic revitalization strategy. To implement this strategy, MVPC has in place a Brownfields Program, staffed by an experienced in-house management team and assisted by a 30+-member Brownfields Policy Steering Committee, comprised of economic and environmental stakeholders from throughout the region, as well as federal and state agency personnel. All applicants participating must have site control and

meet EPA eligibility for participation. Program staff and technical consultants will assist applicants in fulfilling programmatic requirements that include preparation of a Quality Assurance Project Plan, Section 106 & Endangered Species review; & preparation of an Analysis of Brownfield Cleanup Alternatives, and community outreach plan & public review process coordination.

Site Eligibility. Properties in all 15 MVPC District municipalities will be eligible for the program, with the target focus on assessed sites in the core Gateway communities of Haverhill, Lawrence, and Methuen. Participating sites must meet EPA definition of a brownfield and Petroleum-contaminated sites must be receive prior eligibility determination from MassDEP as low risk and without a viable or potentially liable party. The Program's targeted central cities have over 50% of the region's 1,985 documented Brownfield sites (MassDEP 2015), as well as the highest concentration of residents (including low-income minority populations) who are at risk from the contaminants and blight conditions at these sites. Targeted candidate sites include but are not limited to inactive or underutilized mill properties, manufacturing facilities, metal plating industries, junkyards and machine shops. The emphasis will be on properties in the urban core with developer interest, served by sewer, water, and public transportation, and whose redevelopment will demonstrably improve the urban environment and public well-being.

Priority Sites. Our preferred redevelopment scenario involves the *cleanup and reuse of vacant or underutilized mill structures for mixed uses*, including a range of business and housing types. We believe this approach will generally provide more sustainable economic results than renovating the mills to meet the needs of modern manufacturing operations (which typically require higher ceiling clearances and more electrical and telecommunications infrastructure). In a mixed-use redevelopment scenario, there are almost an endless number of businesses that could locate and prosper in these facilities. Although these businesses are typically smaller, they also tend to be more dynamic and innovative, and to spawn "spin-off" businesses that produce additional jobs. The long term impact of this approach will be a healthy diversification of the community's (and region's) economic base, the creation of new and different job opportunities, the creation of sorely needed affordable housing, and the promotion of more vibrant, livable downtowns and neighborhoods within our economically-distressed target communities.

Site Selection. MVPC, our regional Brownfields Steering Committee, and our municipal partners have an objective process in place for selecting appropriate sites to make loans and subgrants. We employ a series of weighted ranking criteria in applying a numerical value for each prospective site. Our criteria include:

- *Documented Community Need and Support* –Impact on the target community with priority to reverse "slum and blight" conditions and compatibility with community/neighborhood land use goals;
- *Housing and Employment Opportunities* – Impact on affordable housing and/or jobs to meet the needs of low/moderate income people;
- *Sustainable Reuse* –use of existing infrastructure, incorporate low impact development and energy conservation measures, enhance "livability," and reduce sprawl;
- *Greenspace* – sustainable design to improve accessibility of public open space and habitat;
- *Health & Welfare*– reduce risks to the surrounding population and environment;
- *Redevelopment Potential* – potential to spur new economic investment, create needed jobs, and improve community's tax base;
- *Commitment of Leveraged Funds* – project viability and scale of private investment pledged;

Sustainable Source of Cleanup Funds. The Merrimack Valley Brownfields Revolving Loan Fund (MVBRLF) is being structured as a true revolving loan fund, limiting loans to borrowers with the demonstrated credit worthiness (highest probability) of repaying the fund to ensure that loan funds will be available for future applicants. The RLF and the management program that supports it will be sustainable

over the long term. MVPC has operating guidelines consistent with EPA Brownfields Program requirements to establish eligibility, loan terms and conditions, procurement rules, procedures for funds disbursement, and repayment schedules.

Borrower Terms. We will provide low-interest flexible loans to eligible applicants, with the interest rates and repayment periods tailored to make the financing work on a case-by-case basis. The loans will cover up to 80% of the cleanup costs, with the remainder coming from eligible private and public matching funds. For our three economically-distressed target communities, we recognize the need to be especially flexible, and will offer loans at 1% below prime and with repayment schedules of up to 30 years. For CDCs and other nonprofits, the interest rates will generally range from prime to prime plus 1%, with a repayment period Interest rates for private for-profit developers will generally range from 2%-4% above prime. Actual interest rates and terms will be determined on a project specific basis.

Municipal Subgrants. MVPC also has requested subgrants (50% of RLF) in this proposal. These will allow further flexibility in performing Brownfields cleanups on properties where the economics may be marginal but where community benefit will be great. Through our current RLF, we have provided subgrants to priority municipal projects including a former tannery site taken in tax title by Salisbury & Amesbury's Lower Millyard.

ii. Marketing Strategy. The target market for our RLF cleanup funds will be for-profit, not-for-profit, and municipal entities in control of sites meeting the EPA Brownfields definition. Non-municipal applicants must be credit worthy, and committed to the region's sustainable and equitable redevelopment goals.

Key to the Program's marketing plan with this RFL application is an enhanced community engagement and education effort to be undertaken in partnership with Groundworks Lawrence, the neighborhood non-profit based in Lawrence with extensive experience in community building and outreach. Targeted outreach to neighborhood associations in Lawrence, Haverhill and Methuen will focus on building neighborhood capacity and connecting brownfields site redevelopment plans to larger neighborhood area visioning and problem-solving. Neighborhood-based representatives will participate in regular, periodic meetings of an expanded Brownfields Steering Committee to also include existing representatives of our member municipal governments, environmental associations, and community-based organizations.

MVPC will update marketing materials, including a tri-fold mailer containing information about the program as well as information on MVPC's website. Distribution efforts will include outreach to realtors, banks, Chambers of Commerce, environmental groups and community development agencies including municipal planning departments. We also will market the Brownfields RLF program and maintain site inventory through our award-winning web-based initiative, "*Merrimack Valley Means Business.*" *MVMB.biz* developed and launched in partnership with the region's two largest chambers of commerce. It is an interactive, internet-based application that combines digital mapping technology with vast spatial databases to enable users to sort and retrieve key data on over 5,900 properties for sale or lease in the MVPC region.

b. Task Description and Budget Table

MVPC is requesting an RLF grant \$1 million to be matched by a minimum 20 percent non-federal cost share (\$200,000) from loan/subgrant recipients and other financing sources. The RLF funds will be used to recapitalize and operate a 5-year regional Brownfields cleanup loan & subgrant program involving tasks:

Task 1. Community Outreach and Engagement. MVPC will partner with the non-profit Groundworks Lawrence on a brownfields community planning and education outreach program in the target communities of Lawrence, Haverhill and Methuen. We will conduct a series of public informational meetings/public involvement forums at the community and neighborhood levels to actively engage the public in proposed and ongoing RLF program activities and cleanup alternatives review at targeted sites identified through prior Assessment efforts. We will create bilingual outreach materials to augment our existing materials.

Task 1 Outputs and Budget: Projected 15 public meetings over 5 years, with technical presentations, exhibits, handout materials; meeting summaries, including public comments received – in both English and Spanish as appropriate. (.05 FTE Project Mgr. over 5 years-- \$4k/year with incidental travel/supplies (\$1,080/yr); Groundworks outreach, presentation assistance (\$5k/year) Total = \$45,400

Task 2. Establishing/Administering Revolving Loan Fund. MVPC, through its non-profit subsidiary Merrimack Valley Economic Development Corporation (MVED), will continue its self-sustaining regional Brownfields Revolving Loan Fund in compliance with applicable EPA RLF grant guidelines. We have developed loan/subgrant guidelines, application criteria and forms, processing procedures, and implementation plan necessary for the operation of a sustainable Brownfields cleanup RLF. To update this effort and assist in loan document preparation and reviews, we will procure professional legal and mortgage underwriting services. In addition, In Massachusetts MCP response actions require certification by a Licensed Site Professional (LSP). LSPs are licensed by the state and submit reports to MassDEP. The MVPC program will competitively procure the services of an environmental firm with qualified LSP to review and oversee the technical elements of program site cleanup activities.

Outputs and Budget: RLF legal documents and forms, operating guidelines, loan terms & conditions. LSP/Environmental contract procurement. Contracted attorney and loan underwriter fees @ \$2k per year/5 years and LSP site application review \$1k/year; Personnel costs at .01 FTE for Program Mgr. and .01 FTE for ED Coordinator. Total task budget = \$20,500.

Task 3. Operating and Marketing the Fund. MVPC will continue to contract with MVED to be the RLF Fund Manager. This arrangement has effectively managed our existing RLF. Using prudent lending practices, the Fund Manager will make loans and subgrants to eligible applicants based on cleanup project eligibility, applicant credit worthiness, commitment of matching funds, and demonstrated project economic and environmental benefits. Preference will be given to projects in the three target communities. Prior to funding consideration, the projects will be carefully evaluated and prioritized by the MVPC Brownfields staff and the Regional Brownfields Steering Committee using the project screening criteria. Program staff will maintain files and ensure compliance monitoring with Davis/Bacon, and DBE/MBE/WBE goals.

Task 3 Outputs and Budget: RLF marketing/owner outreach; meetings w/ prospective loan/subgrant applicants; processed applications; processed loan/subgrant agreements (terms & conditions) compliance reviews; EPA documentation complete. Program Manager (.09 FTE) and ED Coordinator (.09 FTE) = \$45,000; Environmental Consultant technical review & assistance (\$1,960/year); MVPC/MVED staff travel to EPA National Brownfields Conferences and EPA Region 1 training sessions (\$4,300). Total = \$48,400

Task 4. Cleanup Planning and Oversight. Qualified Environmental Professional:

In Massachusetts, cleanup of sites are regulated by the Massachusetts Contingency Plan (MCP) with oversight by MassDEP and certified. All MCP response actions are prepared and stamped by a LSP. As described previously, under the state's privatized voluntary cleanup program, loan/subgrant recipients are responsible for developing and implementing cleanup plans in accordance with MCP requirements. MVPC our teams of QEP (LSP) on retainer will provide assistance as needed and review project documents and attend project status meetings to further assure that cleanup activities are technically sound and performed in accordance with the MCP. Our QEP/LSP will prepare a Decision Memo for each site approved for a loan, as well as review and comment on site specific Historic/Endangered Species review, QAPP, community relations plan and ABCA documents prepared by the borrower's LSP. MVPC contracted LSP will also monitor cleanup, review/approve progress & final payments, & document response outcomes in ACRES.

Task 4 Outputs and Budget: Site visits; meetings w/borrower's LSP and local inspectional services/health dept. personnel; MCP consistency reviews/reports. Programmatic requirements compliance.; MVPC-contracted LSP (\$3,000/yr.)

Task 5. Site Remediation. Employing prudent lending practices, the Fund Manager will carry out the managed disbursement of approved loans and subgrants to eligible applicants for the site cleanup work to be performed by the applicants' LSP and site cleanup contractors.

Task 5 Outputs and Budget: est. 4 loans @ avg. \$140,000/loan = \$560,000; est. 4 subgrants @ avg. \$75,000/subgrant = \$300,000. Total loans and subgrants = \$860,000.

ii. Budget Table							
Funding Type	Budget Categories	Community Engagement	Establishing & Administering Fund	Marketing & Operation	Cleanup Planning & Oversight	Site Remediation	Total
Hazardous Substance Funds 75% (HS)	Personnel ¹	\$15,000	\$4,125	\$33,750			\$52,875
	Fringe Benefits						
	Travel ²	\$300 ^a		\$3,225 ^b			\$3,525
	Equipment						
	Supplies ³	\$3,750					\$3,750
	Contractual ⁴	\$15,000 ^a	\$11,250 ^b	\$7,350 ^c	\$11,250 ^d		\$146,100
	Loans					\$420,000	\$330,000
	Subgrants					\$225,000	\$210,000
	Subtotal	\$34,050	\$15,375	\$44,325	\$11,250	\$645,000	\$750,000
Petroleum Funds 25% (P)	Personnel ¹	\$5,000	\$1,375	11,250			\$18,875
	Fringe Benefits						
	Travel ²	\$100 ^a		\$1,075 ^b			\$1,175
	Equipment						
	Supplies ³	\$1,250 ^a					\$1,250
	Contractual ⁴	\$5,000 ^a	\$3,750 ^b	\$2,450 ^c	\$3,750 ^d		\$48,700
	Loans					\$140,000	\$110,000
	Subgrants					\$75,000	\$70,000
	Subtotal	\$11,350	\$5,125	\$14,775	\$15,000	\$215,000	\$250,000
Federal Funding Subtotal (HS + P)		\$45,400	\$20,500	\$59,100	\$15,000	\$860,000	\$1,000,000
Cost Share						\$200,000	\$200,000
Total		\$45,400	\$20,500	\$59,100	\$15,000	\$1,060,000	\$1,200,000

NOTES: ¹Personnel rates are \$52.72 for Prog.Mgr. (.15 FTE) and \$30.22 for ED Coordinator (.1 FTE). ²Travel. Includes: a) local planning meetings between coalition communities and community partners, and public outreach/marketing meetings for neighborhood groups [15 meetings/yr x 10 miles (avg. round trip) @ \$0.57/mi. = \$400; b) travel to EPA-approved National Brownfields [2 conferences @ \$2k per conference (airfare/taxi/lodging/per diem) = \$4,000; plus other EPA Region 1 grantee training sessions [1 session/yr @ avg. \$60/session x 5 yrs ; Total \$4,300;

³Supplies. Includes presentation materials (folders, flyers, handouts, easels, posters, etc.) for use at a) neighborhood public involvement forums = \$1k per year over 5 years.

⁴Contractual. Includes a)Groundworks Lawrence community-building outreach coordination in ABCA review/public process & translation--\$4k per year/5 years; b) legal services & loan underwriting for RLF, documents & forms = \$2,000/year; LSP/ Env Contractor technical review applications \$1k per year/5 yrs. c) LSP/Env. Contractor technical assistance in program case oversight, \$2,960 per year, d) LSP/Env contractor to review/monitor/report on borrower/subgrantee remediation plan and cleanup progress = \$3k per year. In retaining services, MVPC will comply w federal & state procurement requirements.

c. Ability to Leverage. MVPC will leverage a wide array of matching funds to expand the reach of the RLF program's resources. Indeed, leveraged funds will be a key criterion for cleanup site selection. We have helped member communities obtain numerous redevelopment grants through the years, and we play a lead role in the procurement of funds for transportation related improvement projects. MVPC helped secure both EDA and ISTEA/TEA-21 "enhancement" funds for the Lawrence Gateway and Amesbury Millyard Projects resulted in the leveraging of millions of private investment dollars for the revitalization of mill sites.

Private Monies. MVPC and our coalition partners are committed to working hand-in-hand with prospective site developers to leverage substantial private monies for site cleanup. For example, in Haverhill, following

our assessment work at a downtown abandoned mill site, the developer Forest City Residential has made a private investment in the millions of dollars. Coupled with Historic Tax Credits from the State, these private funds resulted in the redevelopment of a large mill building in the city's downtown, transit-oriented, mixed-use overlay district.

Local Sources. Our target cities of Haverhill, Lawrence, and Methuen, through their Community Development Departments, are committed to applying a variety of financing mechanisms at their disposal, including CDBG funds. Lawrence and Haverhill are HUD CDBG entitlement communities and Methuen is Small Cities CDBG-eligible community.

State Sources. **MassDevelopment**, a quasi-public state financing agency that sits on the Merrimack Valley Regional Brownfields Steering Committee and participates in the Committee's quarterly deliberations, has pledged to support our RLF projects through several programs available to the region's Economically Distressed Areas (EDAs) and Economic Target Areas (ETAs). These programs include: *Brownfields Site Assessment Program* (interest-free financing of up to \$100,000 per redevelopment site) and *Brownfields Remediation Loan Program* (low interest loans of up to \$500,000 per project for site cleanup, and up to \$2 million for selected "Priority" remediation projects). **MassDEP** also provides leveraged assessment and funding through in-kind services through their SARSS V Program.

3. Community Engagement and Partnerships

a.i. Community Involvement Plan. MVPC is proposing to formalize its partnership with Groundwork Lawrence (GWL) to enhance our Brownfields Program community outreach and education efforts. GWL will organize a program of neighborhood-based information and outreach integrating brownfields site assessments into broader community-building planning initiatives in Lawrence target neighborhoods, Haverhill Lower Acre neighborhood and Methuen Arlington neighborhood. With GWL organization assistance, we will act on an ambitious, multi-faceted citizen involvement plan of community programs to engage neighborhood residents and stakeholders. The outreach process will provide forums for education on site assessment and redevelopment plans as the program progresses, and opportunity to incorporate neighborhood feedback in the planning and decision-making process. In addition, our Brownfields Steering Committee, made up of representatives of state agencies, the regional workforce investment board, regional watershed associations, City/Town officials and Gateway community neighborhood-based organizations, will meet quarterly to monitor cases and provide policy direction in outreach and site prioritization.

a.ii. Communicating Progress. In carrying out this program, special consideration will be given to providing equal access to our region's harder-to-reach residents, including the large Hispanic population (*environmental justice*) for whom language can be a barrier. Meeting notices and materials, as well as website postings, will be presented in both *English and Spanish; translation* and signing services will be provided at public meetings as needed and requested. Staff will also make use of MVPC's language proficiency analysis update to coordinate other appropriate language outreach and consult with local partners to design a meeting schedule facilitating participation. Factors to be considered will include daytime/evening meetings, transit hours of operation, convenient, transit-served locations, and provision of childcare services if needed. Our meetings will be advertised through *news releases, direct mailings, and public postings, including posting on MVPC's regional website (www.mvpc.org) and social media (Facebook and Twitter)* as well as the websites of our target community partners and community-based organizations. Through daily communication and hands-on project work with neighborhood groups and citizens, our community-based organizations will play a key role in effective outreach to publicize and promote meaningful participation in target neighborhoods.

3.b. Partnerships with Government Agencies

3.b.i. Local and State Environmental Authority.

The Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP) is the state agency responsible for ensuring clean air and water, the safe management of toxics and hazards, the recycling of solid and hazardous wastes, the timely cleanup of hazardous waste sites and spills, and the preservation of wetlands and coastal resources. MassDEP's regional Brownfields coordinator will be invited to participate on the MVPC Steering Committee as has been the practice with our prior programs. MVPC will coordinate closely with the DEP Brownfields coordinator and keep her apprised of brownfield remediation scheduling & status. In addition to partnering with MassDEP, MVPC will collaborate with the following municipal agencies:

- ***Municipal Health Departments and MA Dept. of Public Health:*** Directors of the local health departments meet bimonthly with MVPC. Their agencies and Massachusetts Department of Public Health maintain written records and an active awareness of local threats to human health and provide data, monitoring assistance, and technical aid to determine courses of action to deal with particular contaminants found in Assessments.
- ***Municipal Inspectional Services Departments:*** These departments maintain information databases on the communities' past and present land uses. They assist MVPC in our research of prior uses of land to be assessed, and what contaminants might be found.

3.b.ii. Other Relevant Governmental Partnerships

- ***U.S. EPA:*** EPA will be our primary federal partner in our regional program and will provide valuable review and direction throughout the grant period. EPA Region 1 Program Officer, an active member of our Brownfields Steering Committee, will review contract documents and approve eligibility forms.
- ***MassDevelopment:*** A quasi-public state financing agency that also serves on our Brownfields Steering Committee and has close collaboration with MVPC. MassDevelopment's economic development programs complement MVPC's regional brownfields program and are a source for leveraging state redevelopment assistance.
- ***Merrimack Valley Workforce Investment Board:*** MVWIB is the recipient of EPA Environmental Workforce Development and Job Training Grants, and partners with MVPC brownfields program staff to identify and promote job training and placement opportunities in the region's site assessment and cleanup projects. MVPC and the MVWIB in 2013 executed a Memorandum of Understanding establishing a protocol for collaboration between the organizations including setting regular meetings and communications regarding projects and contracting opportunities, as well as setting local hiring preference goals in the Gateway target communities of Lawrence, Haverhill and Methuen.

3.c. Partnerships with Community Organizations Our brownfields team has developed strong working partnerships with a number of key community-based organizations in our region. The following organizations in particular play a vital role in the successful planning and implementation of our Brownfields program: (See Attachment C Commitment Letters)

- ***Groundwork Lawrence (GWL),*** is a local non-profit organization working to achieve sustained improvement and management of the physical environment through project partnerships that empower people, businesses, and organizations to promote environmental, economic, and social well-being. Through its strong neighborhood ties and grassroots project work, GWL will be a contracting partner to MVPC in implementing a proactive outreach & education program centered on the site assessment and reuse planning process, with targeted engagement to the region's large Hispanic community impacted by our numerous abandoned and blighted industrial sites. GWL commits to providing grassroots organization, education & community-building outreach with the public through efforts such as neighborhood charettes and public information programming.
- ***Northern Essex Community College (NECC)*** is the Merrimack Valley's only community college, and has campuses in our region's two largest and most disadvantaged communities, Haverhill and Lawrence. MVPC relies heavily on NECC's centralized public meeting facilities equipped w/ state-of-the-art audio-

visual equipment, and makes these facilities available to MVPC to facilitate our brownfield assessment program's community involvement program.

- ***Acre in Action*** is the newly formed neighborhood association for the central Haverhill neighborhood. The association is pledged to help translate & distribute information outreach materials and publicize program meetings/events.
- ***Methuen Downtown Visioning Committee*** is a broad-based organization of central Methuen residents, businesses and civic leaders who have organized and championed downtown revitalization plan for Methuen's central business district. The Committee pledges to continue its work in assisting in participation outreach to property owners & developers and helping publicize civic engagement.
- ***Ipswich River Watershed Association and Merrimack River Watershed Council*** are regional environmental organizations with area coverages that include the Merrimack Valley. IRWA and MRWC will participate on the Brownfields Program Steering Committee and provide technical assistance in environmental impact analysis and project prioritization.
- ***Eight Towns and The Great Marsh (8TGM)***, is a community-based environmental partner of MVPC and the EPA-funded Massachusetts Bays National Estuary Program, providing planning and technical assistance to municipalities and non-profit groups on a broad range of environmental and land use issues, including nonpoint source pollution assessment and management, habitat restoration, and low impact development. 8TGM assists our assessment program on an ongoing basis by offering expert advice on the environmental/greenspace aspects of site reuse plans, and by apprising its constituents of site assessment activities and progress.
- ***Greater Haverhill Chamber of Commerce & the Merrimack Valley Chamber of Commerce*** are the region's largest business network organizations. They are pledged to assist with outreach and participate on the Steering Committee.

4. Program Benefits

Health and/or Welfare Benefits: The EPA grant will have a major beneficial impact by remediating and promoting of sites where documented contamination problems pose significant risks to human health, safety, and the environment. Our target area contains the highest concentration of contamination sites in the Merrimack Valley region, as well as the highest concentration of residents, including most of the region's minority population. By safely removing and disposing of the array of soil, air, and groundwater contaminants present at these sites (lead, hexavalent chromium, arsenic, cyanide, PAHs, PCBs, VOCs, asbestos, pesticides and rodenticides), the health of the impacted resident population will be significantly improved. **For example, we expect elevated lead levels in children in Lawrence (currently three times the state rate) to decline, along with the elevated asthma rates in the general population (currently 67% higher than the statewide average).** Redeveloping these abandoned and blighted sites using enhanced building codes and practices will also significantly reduce the present high risk of fire hazard to area residents and businesses. Further, involvement of the community in brownfields redevelopment will build civic commitment and spark a new-found sense of place and pride.

Environmental Benefits: Properly assessed and remediated sites will also have a major beneficial impact on local receiving water quality, including the quality of the Merrimack and Spicket Rivers which traverse the target area and which are significantly impaired primarily due to chronic elevated levels of PAHs. With long delayed recovery from the Recession, several projects are planned that will beneficially impact the the quality of the region's waterways as well as mitigate the frequency/intensity of flood events:

- Lawrence's Merrimack St. Corridor abutting the Merrimack River in 2015 is undergoing street corridor design upgrades that will reduced sediment load in the City's overtaxed storm sewer system.
- Design elements for the cleanup and reuse of a series of **14 blighted public alleyways** that bisect dense residential neighborhoods in Lawrence incorporate rain gardens and vegetated swales to increase

stormwater infiltration and filter suspended contaminants (e.g., heavy metals and PAHs), reducing runoff pollution and flooding of the nearby Spicket and Merrimack Rivers.

- Haverhill in 2015 enacted its Riverfront Overlay Zoning and City planners are actively in discussion with developers/owners about redevelopment plans on at least seven waterfront sites totaling 49 acres. Plans incorporate stormwater best management practices to reduce pollutants.
- Methuen's Arlington neighborhood and downtown revitalization planning center on brownfields redevelopment. MVPC Assessment and cleanup programs will advance efforts at opening up public access & making residents stakeholders in the river's health.

4. Environmental Benefits from Infrastructure Reuse/Sustainable Reuse

4.b.i. Planning, Policies, and other Tools: When evaluating the specifics of a project, MVPC gives priority consideration to projects that have potential to incorporate sustainable development practices. Many of MVPC's towns and cities have recently encouraged green infrastructure and have updated bylaws regarding development and use of renewable energy sources. All towns have upgraded and enforce their building codes to match the new state regulations which mandate sustainable and efficient methods of construction. Guiding policies include:

- ***Smart Growth/Use of Existing Infrastructure:*** Target projects in areas served by existing infrastructure, such as the dense downtown areas of Haverhill, Lawrence, and Methuen to forestall the need for costly new infrastructure, remove the impetus for developing greenspace in outlying areas, and benefit a greater number of residents at risk through reductions in site toxicity.
- ***Transit-Oriented Development:*** Focus on projects located at or near existing public transit facilities and services. Projects sited centrally & close to public transportation, -- the five commuter rail stops in Haverhill, Lawrence and Andover, the Amtrak station in Haverhill and Merrimack Valley Regional Transit Authority (MVRTA) bus routes throughout the region--, increase the convenience of transit, walking & biking and reduce the region's dependence on auto use & fossil fuels.
- ***Low Impact Development:*** Favor projects that incorporate stormwater management practices which maximize on-site retention, treatment, and infiltration. Practices such as green roofs, rain gardens, native plantings will limit the impact of rain events on local stream levels, and decrease the load of suspended contaminants such as heavy metals and hydrocarbons that are carried in runoff from paved surfaces.
- ***Historic Buildings/Materials Preservation and/or Renovation:*** Work in concert with the local historical commissions to ensure buildings which contribute to the historic character of a neighborhood are not damaged by renewal efforts.

4.b.ii. Integrating Equitable Development or Livability Principles

MVPC's program integrates equitable development and livability through:

- Early and proactive engagement in low-income, minority neighborhoods. Our outreach and education component is strengthened with partnership of Groundworks in this proposal.
- Screening criteria is used in site prioritization and specifically highlights transit and bike/ped access, green infrastructure, energy efficiency, affordable housing & employment needs.
- Collaborating with project partners on area-wide planning including the Making a Visible Difference Initiative, Merrimack Corridor and Rail Corridor Plan efforts in Lawrence; Transformative Development planning in central Haverhill; and Smart Growth district planning in central Methuen.
- Planning efforts cited include mitigation strategies of affordable housing production goals & policies to prevent neighborhood displacement and dislocations from gentrification and housing speculation.

4.c. Economic and Community Benefits (long term benefits)

4.c.i. Economic or Other Benefits. MVPC Brownfields RLF will have a major beneficial impact timed with economic recovery to reverse a climate of disinvestment in urban neighborhoods. The program is structured as an economic development tool linked to community-building at the neighborhood level. As already noted,

the heavy concentration of Brownfields in this area has had a severe, long-term negative impact on our ability to remove the existing blight, attract and retain viable businesses, provide reliable jobs for our economically-disadvantaged minority population, and broaden a constrained local tax base that is overly-dependent on residential property taxes. With the RLF recapitalization, we will be able to leverage a variety of private and public funds to redevelop these sites, thereby building a more robust and diversified economy and providing sorely-needed jobs and affordable housing to the area's large population of chronically unemployed and underemployed citizens.

4.c.ii. Job Creation Potential: Partnerships with Workforce Development Programs

This project will encourage community and regional economic development in a number of ways including strengthening and expanding the Regions' business sector, providing employment opportunities, and enhancing business revitalization through local hiring, procurement and job training. The Merrimac Valley has a well established job training program through the Merrimack Valley Workforce Investment Board (MVWIB). MVWIB is the recipient of several EPA Environmental Workforce Development and Job Training Grants, and works closely with MVPC brownfields program staff to identify and promote job training and placement opportunities in the region's site assessment and cleanup projects. MVPC and the MVWIB in 2013 executed a Memorandum of Understanding establishing a protocol for collaboration between the organizations, including setting regular meetings and communications regarding projects and contracting opportunities, as well as setting local hiring preference goals in the Gateway target communities of Lawrence, Haverhill and Methuen.

5. Programmatic Capability and Past Performance

5.a. Programmatic Capability MVPC has a full complement of experienced senior-level professional staff and advisors to effectively manage the Regional Brownfields Revolving Loan Fund:

Dennis DiZoglio, Executive Director has led MVPC since 2007. He has more than 35 years community development experience. As MVPC Executive Director, Mr. DiZoglio will review & approve all agreements & execute contracts.

Joseph Cosgrove, Brownfields Program Mgr., has over 28 years experience in public administration including planning/development work at the city, regional and state level in Massachusetts. Prior to joining the MVPC team in 2014, Mr. Cosgrove served 14 years as Planning/Development Director at the MBTA, the fifth largest transit agency in the country. As Program Manager, Mr. Cosgrove will coordinate program marketing and community outreach, review and make case selection recommendations, oversee contract procurement, maintain record-keeping, and manage legal/LSP engineering contracts.

Heidi Murphy, Economic Development Coordinator, has a 15-year background in community development and is responsible for the annual update of the region's Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy. She began work at MVPC in 2015 and her regional economic development responsibilities include organizing and providing staff support for the region's Brownfields Steering Committee, monitoring the progress of Brownfields Assessment program goals and assisting in preparation of quarterly reporting to EPA.

Jenifer Dunlap, Accountant. Ms. Dunlap has over 20 years experience in public accounting. She is responsible for maintaining all financial recordkeeping and reporting, consistent with Cooperative Agreement terms and conditions.

Assisting in implementing the regional Brownfields Program will be the Community Development Department Directors/Brownfields staff for our three target area communities: **Andrew Herlihy**, Haverhill Brownfields Program Coordinator; **Jim Barnes**, Lawrence Economic and Community Development Director; and **William Buckley**, Methuen Community Development Director. All three have broad experience in community redevelopment and will provide ongoing guidance to MVPC in site selection, reuse planning, leveraging of funds, and community engagement.

5.b. Audit Findings MVPC has managed prior EPA grants without audit findings. All funds were expended in a timely manner and all administrative reports (quarterly, annual, closeout) were completed and submitted

on time. An annual audit of all MVPC financial records is performed by an independent certified public accountant to evaluate and certify contract activities.

5.c. Past Performance and Accomplishments

5.c.1. Compliance with Grant Requirements: MVPC has been awarded and implemented prior EPA brownfields assessment grants (hazardous substances and petroleum) and RL F 2010 base funding.

MVPC USEPA Brownfields Grants History	Amount	Grant Type	Contaminant Class	Grant Status	Ph I ESA Sites	Ph II ESA Sites	Additional Assessment ¹ Cleanup Sites	Remaining Funds	
BF-96163801 (FY12)	\$200K	Asses	Haz	Open	4	2	4	-	\$21K ¹
BF-96109001 (FY10)	\$1,375K	RLF	Haz/Petro	Open	-	-	-	4	\$472K ²
2B96109101/201 (FY09)	\$400K	Asses	Haz/Petro	Close	16	4	6	-	\$0
BF-97156701 (FY06)	\$400K	Asses	Haz/Petro	Close	17	3	8	-	\$0
BF-98192401 (FY03)	\$400K	Asses	Haz/Petro	Close	10	4	3	-	\$0

- 1– All funds to be expended by 9/30/16 2—Includes \$375k Supplemental awarded FY14

5.c.2. Accomplishments: We have used the EPA grant funds to establish and implement a highly successful District-wide brownfields program that has assessed and led to cleanups at both hazardous substance and petroleum-contaminated sites. Our workplan outputs and outcomes have included completion of over 80 Phase I/II and Mass. Contingency Plan response actions. Our sites have ranged from large mill complexes and manufacturing facilities to machine shops, metal-plating shops, commercial trucking depots, dry-cleaners, and abandoned rail corridors. The following MVPC assessment project ***accomplishments show our dedication to livability principles and community development through successful public/private partnerships:***

Hamel Mills Lofts Adaptive Reuse: The largest redevelopment project in the Haverhill's history of the City of Haverhill, this 5-acre derelict manufacturing facility was converted into 305 units affordable housing (and a public park in the city's downtown commercial district, only ½- block from the MBTA commuter rail station.

NECC Allied Health and Technology Center: Northern Essex Community converted an abandoned brownfield site adjacent to its downtown Lawrence campus into a new Allied Health and Technology Center, bringing over 1,000 additional students into downtown Lawrence each week. The spin-off to existing businesses in the area is enormous. The new graduates the facility produces each year generate an estimated \$12 million annually in additional health related professional salaries.

Rail Trail Projects: MVPC provided environmental assessment services to proposed rail trail projects in Haverhill and Newburyport. These now-completed projects represent 2.5 miles of new exercise paths available to downtown residents.

Amesbury Lower Millyard: Program financed cleanup at former industrial site/DPW yard transformed to public greenspace along the PowWow River in City downtown business district. Project leveraged more than \$4 million in state Transportation Enhancement and PARC funding.

Lawrence Gateway: City of Lawrence used MVPC RLF gap financing to complete remediation at the former Oxford Paper Mill site in the City's North Canal District. The 3-acre site was converted to a passive park connected to the Spicket River Greenway.

ATTACHMENT A

THRESHOLD CRITERIA

1) APPLICANT ELIGIBILITY

The Merrimack Valley Planning Commission is a regional governmental entity “Regional Council” established in 1959 under Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 40B. (See **Attachment C** Summary Description of MVPC organization, membership & purpose; Background on Massachusetts regional planning agencies.)

2) DESCRIPTION OF JURISDICTION

The MVPC Planning District encompasses 270 square miles in northeastern Massachusetts and consists of 15 member municipalities: Amesbury, Andover, Boxford, Georgetown, Groveland, Haverhill, Lawrence, Merrimac, Methuen, Newbury, Newburyport, North Andover, Rowley, Salisbury, and West Newbury. MVPC has regional planning jurisdiction throughout the entire 15-community District and will use the RLF grant on a jurisdiction-wide basis. However, special consideration will be given to the District’s three largest and most heavily industrialized urban centers – the Cities of Haverhill, Lawrence, and Methuen – as target area for the MVPC Brownfield program marketing, outreach, and site cleanup funds.

3) LETTER FROM STATE OR TRIBAL ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORITY

Attached is 12/8/2015 grant application acknowledgement letter of MassDEP Brownfields Coordinator Kerry Bowie. (**Attachment B**) This letter acknowledges and supports MVPC’s plans to apply for an EPA Brownfields RLF grant on behalf of the Merrimack Valley Planning District for the purposes of establishing a regional revolving loan fund and conducting site cleanup activities.

4) OVERSIGHT STRUCTURE & LEGAL AUTHORITY TO MANAGE A REVOLVING LOAN FUND

a. Oversight Structure. MVPC has a dedicated Brownfields Program leader who will oversee the program. MVPC has a Brownfields Steering Committee and will engage a Fund Manager, with real estate experience, to help administer the RLF. MVPC will also hire its own Qualified Environmental Professional (QEP),

who will be a Massachusetts Licensed Site Professional (LSP). The QEP will review the cleanup approach and documentation to ensure the RLF cleanup is performed in accordance applicable regulations. MVPC's QEP will evaluate if the technical information provided is correct and if the money requested in the loan application is sufficient to complete the project. Especially as the projects must meet EPA's public bid requirements, must include Davis-Bacon wage rates and meet Disadvantaged Business Enterprise goals.

Massachusetts has a privatized voluntary cleanup program, approved by EPA, for assessing and remediating releases of hazardous substances and petroleum contaminants. Under this program, site assessment and cleanup activities are overseen by qualified environmental professionals licensed by the state Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP) to ensure that assessment and cleanup activities are performed in strict compliance with Massachusetts regulations (i.e., the Massachusetts Contingency Plan or "MCP"). The MCP is the state response program. Recipients of Merrimack Valley Brownfields RLF monies will be required to engage the services of an LSP to develop a cleanup approach and to prepare the necessary cleanup work plans in accordance with the state MCP.

The MCP has built-in safeguards to ensure that human health and the environment are protected throughout the cleanup process. In hiring its own LSP, MVPC will follow applicable federal and state procurement procedures (40 CFR 31 and Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 30B, "Municipal, County, District and Local Authority Procurement of Supplies, Services, and Real Property"), to obtain expert consultant services in a fair and objective manner. Having managed a successful RLF program as well as a broad range of public grants through the years, including four EPA Brownfields assessments grants, MVPC is thoroughly familiar with procurement and compliance requirements.

b. Legal Authority to Manage RLF. A legal opinion from MVPC's counsel (**Attachment D**) demonstrates MVPC's legal authority to: 1) access and secure sites in the event of an emergency, a default on a loan agreement, or non-performance under a subgrant, and 2) perform the actions necessary to manage a RLF. It also affirms MVPC's broader jurisdiction, authority, and program capacity to ensure adequate program performance of community partners, borrowers, and/or subgrantees. Authority is derived from Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 40B, which authorized the creation of MVPC as a political subdivision of the Commonwealth. Under this authority, MVPC established its subsidiary Merrimack Valley Economic Development Corporation, which has

capitalized and successfully operated a \$1.375 million regional RLF to support the growth and retention of commercial and industrial jobs in the Valley.

5) STATUTORY COST SHARE

MVPC will provide a twenty percent cost share of \$200,000 on the \$1 million grant. This cost share will be applied to loans and subgrants issued under the RLF, and will come from private and public matching funds and professional in-kind services, as follows:

a. Sources of Funding and Services. The cost share contributions will consist of partner financing programs and in-kind professional services, as well as borrower fees, interest on loans, and supplemental funds, labor, materials, and/or services from non-federal sources. Financing sources include, among others, CDBG funds and tax increment financing (TIF). Additional matching funds are available through both the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) Brownfields Program and the Massachusetts Development Financing Agency (MassDevelopment). MassDevelopment supports RLF projects through several programs available to Economically-Distressed Areas (EDAs) and Economic Target Areas (ETAs). Additional cost share will be provided as in-kind services from MVPC's professional personnel assigned to the RLF program. All of the above partners – i.e., the three target area communities, Mass. DEP, and MassDevelopment – are active participants on MVPC's Regional Brownfields Steering Committee and have pledged their assistance in the cleanup of the region's priority Brownfield sites. Additional support for the program is from our Community Partners. Letters of Support from stakeholders are also included as Attachment E.

The RLF Fund Manager will assure that the 20% cost share is incurred for only eligible and allowable costs under the Cooperative Agreement. Administrative and other prohibited costs will not be allowed. The 20% cost share will be an *average* match contribution, with the actual contribution for any specific project being potentially higher or lower based on project need and consistency with RLF Program priorities.

b. Hardship Waiver Request. Not applicable, as a waiver is not being sought.

ATTACHMENT B

Acknowledgement Letter from State Environmental Authority

(Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection)



Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Executive Office of Energy & Environmental Affairs

Department of Environmental Protection

One Winter Street Boston, MA 02108 • 617-292-5500

Charles D. Baker
Governor

Karyn E. Polito
Lieutenant Governor

Matthew A. Bealon
Secretary

Martin Suuberg
Commissioner

December 8, 2015

U.S. EPA New England
Attn: Frank Gardner
5 Post Office Square, Suite 100
Mail Code: OSRR07-3
Boston, MA 02109-3912

RE: STATE LETTER OF ACKNOWLEDGMENT
Merrimack Valley Planning Commission, Application for EPA Revolving Loan Fund Grant

Dear Mr. Gardner:

I am writing to support the proposal submitted by the Merrimack Valley Planning Commission (MVPC) under the Fiscal Year 2016 U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Brownfield Revolving Loan Fund (RLF) Grant Program. MVPC is seeking to recapitalize the Merrimack Valley Brownfields Cleanup Loan Fund. The fund is an important economic tool in catalyzing economic development in the 15-community Merrimack Valley region. The MVPC plans to allocate up to 60% of the funds to the Gateway Cities of Lawrence, Methuen, and Haverhill.

In Massachusetts, state and federal agencies have developed strong partnerships and work together to ensure that parties undertaking Brownfield projects have access to available incentives. The Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP), through our regional offices, provides technical support to Brownfield project proponents when regulatory issues arise. If this proposal is selected, MassDEP will work with our state and federal partners to provide the support to the MVPC that will be needed to help make this project a success.

We greatly appreciate EPA's continued support of Brownfield efforts here in Massachusetts.

Sincerely,

Kerry Bowie
Brownfields Coordinator, MassDEP Commissioner's Office

cc: Joseph Cosgrove, Environmental Program Manager, Merrimack Valley Planning Commission
Joanne Fagan, Brownfields Coordinator, MassDEP Northeast Regional Office
Angela Gallagher, Assistant Brownfields Coordinator, MassDEP Southeast Regional Office

ATTACHMENT C

Documentation of Applicant Eligibility

MERRIMACK VALLEY PLANNING COMMISSION

District Establishment and Organization

The Merrimack Valley Planning Commission (formerly, Central Merrimack Valley Regional Planning District) was established as a public body corporate in accordance with Section 3, Chapter 40B of the Massachusetts General Laws, as amended. The organization meeting was held on July 10, 1959 and, pursuant to the provisions of said Section, on October 14, 1959 the then Department of Commerce (now Department of Commerce and Development) defined the area of jurisdiction of the Central Merrimack Valley Regional Planning District as composed of its constituent municipalities; namely, the City of Lawrence and the Towns of Andover, Methuen and North Andover. On August 10, 1966 the area of jurisdiction was expanded to include the City of Haverhill and the Towns of Boxford, Groveland, Georgetown, Merrimac, and West Newbury, but only Haverhill, Merrimac, and West Newbury voted to join the District at that time. In 1968 the Town of Groveland voted to join the District. On July 3, 1968 the area of jurisdiction was expanded to include the City of Newburyport and the Towns of Amesbury, Newbury, Rowley and Salisbury, but only Newburyport and Amesbury voted to join the District. In 1971 Georgetown and Salisbury voted to join the District. In 1977 the Town of Newbury voted to join the District, in 1979 the Town of Rowley voted to join the District, and in 2000 the Town of Boxford voted to join the District.

During 1971 the District voted to change its name to the Merrimack Valley Planning Commission.

District Membership

The Merrimack Valley Planning District presently consists of 15 municipalities; namely, the five cities of Amesbury, Haverhill, Lawrence, Methuen, and Newburyport; and the 10 towns of Andover, Boxford, Georgetown, Groveland, Merrimac, Newbury, North Andover, Rowley, Salisbury, and West Newbury. Each municipality is represented by one member appointed from the planning board and one alternate appointed by the mayor, town manager, or selectmen.

In 1984 the MVPC secured passage of a provision that allows for the appointment of a Representative-at-Large who represents the area's minority populations.

District Purpose and Function

The Commission was established primarily to assist municipalities to plan jointly, and to promote with the greatest efficiency and economy the coordinated and orderly development of areas within its jurisdiction and the general welfare and prosperity of its citizens. The Commission members, alternates, and advisory committee members receive no compensation other than reimbursement for certain allowable expenses.

The Commission is directed by statute to make careful studies and plans of the District's resources, opportunities, and needs, and, on the basis of such comprehensive studies and plans, to recommend undertakings for the physical, social, and economic improvement of the District.



BACKGROUND INFORMATION ON MASSACHUSETTS REGIONAL PLANNING AGENCIES

Who We Are: The Massachusetts Association of Regional Planning Agencies (MARPA) is a statewide organization of the commonwealth's 13 regional planning agencies (RPAs). Each RPA, in turn, comprises representatives of the member cities and towns constituting its geographic region. Although Massachusetts' RPAs are public service agencies, they are not direct arms of the federal or state governments. Rather, they are consortia of local governments that have banded together under the provisions of state law to address problems and opportunities that are regional in scope. The regional planning areas delineated for each of Massachusetts' 13 RPAs are designated by state enabling legislation as special state districts.

Each RPA is governed by a board formed of representatives from its member communities. Planning professionals on RPA staffs work with their boards and with many public agencies and officials to define and direct solutions to area-wide problems that cannot be solved by member communities working alone.

What We Do: The regional planning agencies in Massachusetts are public organizations that encompass a multi-jurisdictional regional community. These RPAs serve the local governments and citizens within their planning districts by dealing with issues and needs that cross city, town, county, and even state boundaries through planning, policymaking, communication coordination, advocacy, education, analysis, and technical assistance. The 13 regional planning agencies that form MARPA are advisory bodies to member communities, private business groups, and state and federal governments, providing research and analysis services and helping to implement planning in areas such as economic development, community and rural development, infrastructure development and maintenance, environment and land use, regional and municipal services, solid waste management and recycling, historic preservation, transportation and transit, GIS mapping and graphics services, technical assistance to member communities, housing, bikeway planning and development, and regional information.

Where We Are: Massachusetts' 13 regional planning agencies cover the entire state with planning areas of varying sizes. There are approximately 600 similar planning organizations nationwide.

When We Were Created: In 1955, Massachusetts became one of the first states in the nation to enact statewide enabling legislation that allowed for the creation of regional planning agencies. Within a decade and half, all 13 Massachusetts RPAs had been legally established, encompassing a majority of the commonwealth's 351 cities and towns. Today, more than 40 years later, all but a handful of the state's municipalities are active members of their regions' RPAs and are fully engaged in a regional planning process that exists wall-to-wall across Massachusetts.

Why We Were Created: Massachusetts' Regional Planning Law, MGL Chapter 40B, was designed "to permit a city or town to plan jointly with cities or towns to promote with the greatest efficiency and economy the coordinated and orderly development of the areas within their jurisdictions and the general welfare and prosperity of their citizens." In essence, city and town governments within each of the 13 state-designated regional planning districts were authorized to voluntarily join together in order to address problems as well as opportunities of regional scope. Regional planning agencies are the umbrellas under which these cities and towns have come together.

Massachusetts' RPAs promote regional collaboration among their member communities. They are also the primary agencies responsible for increasing communication, cooperation, and coordination among all levels of government as well as the private business and civic sectors in order to benefit their planning regions and to improve their residents' quality of life.

How We Operate: Massachusetts' RPAs are funded through modest annual assessments from their member communities, state and federal grant programs, private sector contributions, and service fees, among other sources.

ATTACHMENT D

Legal Opinion Affirming Authority to Establish and Operate RLF

Herbert P. Phillips, P.C.
Michael A. Gerstein
Russell S. Channen
Lora M. McSherry
Jane M. Owens Triano

LAW OFFICES OF
Phillips, Gerstein & Channen, LLP

25 Kenoza Avenue ■ Haverhill, MA 01830
Tel: (978) 374-1131 ■ Fax: (978) 372-3086
www.pgclawoffice.com

January 21, 2014

Merrimack Valley Planning Commission
160 Main Street
Haverhill, MA 01830
Attn: Dennis Dizoglio, Executive Director

**RE: Merrimack Valley Planning Commission
Legal Opinion**

Dear Dennis:

It is the opinion of counsel that the Merrimack Valley Planning Commission has the legal authority to establish and manage a regional Brownfields Cleanup Revolving Loan Fund ("Merrimack Valley Brownfields Revolving Loan Fund"), and to carry out all necessary functions thereto, including the authority to enter into cooperative agreements, hold funds, enter into loan and subgrant agreements, issue loans and subgrants, hold collateral, charge interest, collect repayments, and access and secure RLF-financed sites in the event of an emergency or default of a loan agreement or nonperformance under a subgrant.

It is the further opinion of counsel, that Merrimack Valley Planning Commission has the legal authority to monitor the performance and direct compliance of coalition members, borrowers and/or subgrantees, if warranted.

This authority derives from Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 40B, which authorized the creation of the Merrimack Valley Planning Commission as a political subdivision of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. Under this authority, the Merrimack Valley Planning Commission, through its subsidiary Merrimack Valley Economic Development Corporation, has established, capitalized, and operates a regional Revolving Loan Fund which supports the creation and retention of commercial and industrial jobs in the Merrimack Valley region.

Very truly yours,


Michael A. Gerstein

MAG:sek

G:\Michael\mvpvc legalopinion ltr 01.21.14.wpd

ATTACHMENT E

Letters of Commitment and Support from Community-Based Organizations

Groundwork Lawrence

Northern Essex Community College

Acre in Action, Haverhill

Methuen Downtown Visioning Committee

Eight Towns and the Great Marsh

Ipswich River Watershed Association

Merrimack River Watershed Council

Greater Haverhill Chamber of Commerce

Merrimack Valley Chamber of Commerce

Other Organizational Leveraged Commitments

MassDevelopment

Merrimack Valley Workforce Investment Board

City of Lawrence

City of Haverhill



Groundwork LAWRENCE

Changing Places.

Changing Lives.

December 16, 2015

Dennis Dizoglio
Merrimack Valley Planning Commission
160 Main Street
Haverhill MA 01830

Dear Dennis,

Groundwork Lawrence (GWL) is in full support the Merrimack Valley Planning Commission's (MVPC) application to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency for its FY2016 Brownfields Revolving Loan Funds (RLF) Grant. GWL has been making change happen since its beginnings in 1999. Through our environmental and open space improvements, healthy food access programs, youth education, employment initiatives, community programming and events, GWL creates the building blocks of a healthy community, and empowers Lawrence residents to improve their quality of life.

GWL has a long history of brownfield revitalization work in partnership with the City of Lawrence, resulting in over \$19 million invested in place-based projects including parks and community gardens. Funded in part with EPA's Brownfield Assessment funding, these projects have transformed former brownfields into open and green spaces. Recently, an EPA Brownfield Assessment funding was used at the Ferrous site, which led to the Commonwealth awarding \$2.75M for GWL to restore the site and construct an urban wild park.

The need for brownfield assessment and revolving loan funding in the region is high: Lawrence alone has over 300 sites with both petroleum and hazardous substances present. Increased assessment activities also require comprehensive outreach to ensure residents are aware of the recognized environmental constraints and the potential risks to public health within their community. Groundwork is committed to supporting MVPC's RLF program by providing enhanced outreach activities that raise community awareness and support equitable redevelopment. We are also committed to providing Spanish translation services to ensure these efforts reach the broadest possible audience.

GWL strongly supports the City's efforts to identify, assess and redevelop the brownfields in Lawrence. Brownfield redevelopment presents tremendous potential for Lawrence in terms of economic, environmental and public health improvements. Please contact me for any assistance at 978-974-0770 x 7009 or hmcman@groundworklawrence.org.

Thank you,

Heather McMann, Executive Director



OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

Dr. Lane A. Glenn

Telephone 978.556.3855
Fax 978.556.3665
E-mail lglen@necc.mass.edu

December 9, 2015

Dennis DiZoglio
Executive Director
Merrimack Valley Planning Commission
160 Main Street
Haverhill, MA 01830

RE: NECC Support and Commitment for MVPC FY16 Brownfields Assessment Grant and Revolving Loan Fund Grant Applications to EPA

Dear Mr. DiZoglio:

On behalf of Northern Essex Community College, I am pleased to offer our enthusiastic support for both the Merrimack Valley Planning Commission's Brownfields Assessment and Revolving Loan fund (RLF) grant applications to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. The EPA grants will enable MVPC to replenish funds for the regional Brownfields Assessment Program and Cleanup Revolving Loan Fund which continue to be an important financing mechanism for restoring hazardous substances contaminated properties, especially in the densely-developed urban centers of Haverhill, Lawrence, and Methuen. Clean-up of these properties will reduce or eliminate longstanding environmental and public health risks to area residents, and will expand job opportunities for the communities' unemployed and under-employed minority workforce.

The purpose of this grant project meshes with the mission of the college: to provide high quality, affordable education, training and community services to a diverse cross-section of traditional and increasingly, nontraditional and disadvantaged populations. For many of its students, especially those from the poorer communities of Lawrence, Methuen and Haverhill, Northern Essex represents the sole, viable option for higher education and upward mobility. As an officially designated Hispanic Serving Institution (by the United States Department of Education), Northern Essex has adopted a proactive stance to support the enrollment of first generation, minority and low income students and to be both proactive and reactive as we develop curriculum and forge new alliances to help our students strengthen their academic performance and increase their scope for career and meaningful employment opportunities.

MVPC is well qualified to continue operating a regional Brownfields Assessment and RLF program for the Merrimack Valley Region. MVPC serves as the federal (EDA)-designated Economic Development District for the region, providing current data and technical assistance to member municipalities and other entities on a wide array of economic development issues. In addition, through its subsidiary Merrimack Valley Economic Development Corporation (MVED), MVPC operates a successful \$1 million Revolving Loan Fund that supports the growth and retention of commercial and industrial jobs in the Valley. Further, over the last 10 years,

MVPC has carried out a successful region-wide Brownfields site assessment program on behalf of the Merrimack Valley region. Through this program, MVPC has inventoried and evaluated a wide array of known and suspected municipal and private contamination sites, a number of which require remediation before they can be returned to productive re-use. Replenishing the Brownfields Revolving Loan Fund is a logical and needed extension of this Brownfields assessment initiative. The Brownfields Assessment and RLF enjoys the solid support of the region's Comprehensive Economic Development Strategic (CEDS) Committee and regional Brownfields Steering Committee, of which NECC is an active member.

We look forward to building on our strong partnership with MVPC should the RLF grant be awarded. Toward this end, we are pleased to offer our state-of-the-art conference centers in Haverhill and Lawrence as meeting facilities for MVPC's public outreach and involvement forums. Located close to the communities' urban populations, these facilities will provide convenient and comfortable settings for engaging neighborhood groups and citizens in Brownfields re-use planning and redevelopment decision-making.

As a community and economic development partner of MVPC, we applaud MVPC's initiative and leadership in the Brownfields redevelopment arena, and we urge favorable action by EPA on MVPC's worthy RLF grant application. Please contact me if I can be of further assistance.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lane A. Glenn". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Lane" being the most prominent.

Dr. Lane A. Glenn
President

ACRE IN ACTION

December 1st, 2015

Dennis A. DiZoglio
Executive Director
Merrimack Valley Planning Commission
160 Main Street
Haverhill, MA 01830

Re: Merrimack Valley Planning Commission application for FY16 Brownfields Assessment & RLF Funding

Dear Mr. DiZoglio:

Acre in Action is a neighborhood organization committed to improving the social and physical quality of life in our central Haverhill neighborhood.

We are pleased to partner with the Merrimack Valley Planning Commission and pledge to assist the MVPC Brownfields Program in community outreach. We can provide assistance in translation service and leafleting/e-mail in distributing information about the Brownfields Assessment and Revolving Loan Fund assistance available, public outreach meetings, and developer site solicitations.

Our neighborhood is home to several auto-related facilities and former industrial sites that detract from our community-building efforts and hinder investment. Working together with MVPC and the City of Haverhill we hope these brownfield blight areas can be transformed into economic and housing opportunities for benefitting residents of the Acre.

We hope the Merrimack Valley Brownfields Programs continued funding can be much needed resources in implementing our vision for a healthy Acre. We look forward to working with you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "B. Mercado".

Bianca Mercado

*rec'd from
Methuen Downtown Vision
Committee*

Dennis DiZoglio, Executive Director
Merrimack Valley Planning Commission
160 Main Street
Haverhill, MA 01830

December 8, 2015

Dear Mr. DiZoglio,

We are writing this letter of support for the Merrimack Valley Planning Commission's (MVPC) applications to the US EPA FY2016 Brownsfield Assessment and Brownfields Revolving Loan Fund Grant Funding.

In 2014 the Mayor initiated the Downtown Visioning Committee. The mission of the Committee is to develop bold and innovative strategies to establish Downtown Methuen as a vibrant, mixed-use district with new and existing dining, shopping, residential and cultural destinations. Through this Committee the City completed an Urban Land Institute (ULI) Technical Assistance Panel (TAP) to solicit feedback from key stakeholders in the Downtown. This presentation inspired new interest in the downtown among property owners and the community.

The committee is comprised of both private and public stakeholders that bring a unique prospective to the table. Each stakeholder is directly affected by the conditions that have plagued the downtown; from business owners struggling to get customers, property owners that have underutilized or abandoned properties, to previous elected officials and city residents. These individuals also bring their own experience as realtors, planners, lawyers, developers, engineers, etc. to the table. The diversity allows the group to be objective with a vested interest in the downtown and its revival.

The City has just received a Planning Assistance Toward Housing (PATH) grant to develop a 40R Smart Growth Overlay District. The receipt of a technical assistance grant to further explore blight and contaminated properties would help us create a thorough economic development strategy to revitalize downtown.

The City and the Downtown Visioning Committee are deeply committed to this initiative and we pledge to assist in developer/owner outreach in obtaining site access as well as aid in promoting public information & education meetings.

Sincerely,



Tom Lussier, Chair

November 25th, 2015



www.ETGM.org

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Valley
Planning Commission**

**c/o MVPC
160 Main Street
Haverhill, MA 01830
(978) 374-0519
Fax 372-4890
pphippen@mvpc.org**

Dennis DiZoglio
Executive Director
Merrimack Valley Planning Commission
160 Main Street
Haverhill, MA 01830

RE: 8T&B Support and Commitment to MVPC Brownfields Assessment and RLF
FY16 Program Applications

Dear Mr. DiZoglio:

Eight Towns and The Bay (8T&B) is pleased to offer our enthusiastic support for the Merrimack Valley Planning Commission's FY 16 Brownfields Assessment Grant and RLF funding applications to EPA. MVPC has a distinguished record of accomplishment leading planning efforts, and will use the grant funds to continue the region's highly successful assessment program for the benefit of municipalities, nonprofit organizations, and private redevelopment entities across the Merrimack Valley region.

The need for additional assessment funding in the Merrimack Valley is great. As the "Birthplace of the American Industrial Revolution", the Merrimack Valley has the unfortunate landscape legacy of brownfield commercial and industrial sites throughout the Valley. The stigma of real or perceived environmental contamination at these sites has resulted in their abandonment or diminished use, and remains a significant obstacle to reclaiming these sites to their full economic potential.

8T&B applauds MVPC's initiative to respond to these challenges through its regional Brownfields Assessment Program. As a grassroots, community-based watershed association, 8T&B is dedicated to the protection, enhancement, and stewardship of the region's vulnerable land and water resources. We work to accomplish our mission by providing hands-on technical assistance to our partners in the areas of environmental assessment, mapping, and monitoring; municipal and public education; and grantwriting.

We look forward to working with your staff, and are committed to assisting the Brownfields Assessment Program in the following specific ways: 1) reviewing and offering expert advice on the environmental/greenspace aspects of site redevelopment plans, with an eye toward maximizing the use of LID and greenscaping practices, and 2) keeping our broad constituency apprised of, and engaged in, the site assessment and redevelopment decisionmaking process.

Sincerely,

Peter Phippen

8T&B Regional Coordinator



December 10, 2015

Dennis A. DiZoglio
Executive Director
Merrimack Valley Planning Commission
160 Main Street
Haverhill, MA 01830

Re: MVPC Application to FY16 EPA Brownfields Assessment and Revolving Loan Fund Programs

Dear Mr. DiZoglio:

On behalf of the Ipswich River Watershed Association, I want to commend the Merrimack Valley Planning Commission (MVPC) for its initiative in regional brownfields cleanup and environmental assessment planning.

The Ipswich River Watershed Association (IRWA) is the voice of the Ipswich River and the region's tributaries. IRWA works with community partners including MVPC to protect nature and make sure that there is enough clean water for people, fish and wildlife, today and for our children and theirs. Cleaning up brownfields and managing urban stormwater runoff are critical to improving the conditions of our rivers and streams. According to EPA, 55% of the Commonwealth's water impairments are attributable to pollutants from stormwater drainage.

We strongly support the MVPC initiative and the applications to EPA for FY16 Brownfields Assessment Grant and FY16 Revolving Loan Fund recapitalization and pledge to assist MVPC in community education outreach, participation on the project Steering Committee and assistance in site selection/priority-setting. We look forward to building on our existing partnership in the next phase of regional Brownfield assessment and cleanup work. Should you need any additional assistance in application or program support, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

Wayne Castonguay
Executive Director



December 10, 2015

Dennis A. DiZoglio
Executive Director
Merrimack Valley Planning Commission
160 Main Street
Haverhill, MA 01830

Re: FY16 EPA Brownfields Assessment and Revolving Loan Fund Applications of
Merrimack Valley Planning Commission

Dear Dennis:

On behalf of the Merrimack River Watershed Council, I want to affirm our organization's commitment to partnership support with the Merrimack Valley Planning Commission (MVPC) for in regional brownfields cleanup and environmental assessment planning.

As stewards of the Merrimack River basin, we know how critical sustainable land use and cleaning up brownfields are to improving the conditions of our rivers and streams.

We strongly support the MVPC initiative and its application to the EPA for FY16 Brownfields Assessment Grant and FY16 Revolving Loan Fund recapitalization. We pledge to assist MVPC in community education outreach, participation on the project Steering Committee and assistance in site selection/priority-setting. This project complements our existing riparian restoration/protection initiative, funded by the USFS and NFWF; part of that project's objectives is to restore two brownfield sites.

We look forward to building on our existing partnership in the next phase of regional Brownfield assessment and cleanup work. Should you need any additional assistance in application or program support, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Caroly Shumway", written in a cursive style.

Dr. Caroly Shumway
Executive Director



December 10, 2015

Dennis A. DiZoglio
Executive Director
Merrimack Valley Planning Commission
160 Main Street
Haverhill, MA 01830


Re: FY16 EPA Brownfields Assessment and Revolving Loan Fund Applications of Merrimack Valley Planning Commission

Dear Mr. DiZoglio:

On behalf of the Greater Haverhill Chamber of Commerce, I want to affirm our organization's commitment to partnership support with the Merrimack Valley Planning Commission (MVPC) in Brownfields Program outreach to businesses and developers.

The Chamber is an advocate for building a healthy economic environment in the Greater Haverhill area and improving plans for transformative development through brownfields reuse in our urban cores.

We strongly support the MVPC initiative and the applications to EPA for a FY16 Brownfields Assessment Grant and FY16 Revolving Loan Fund recapitalization, and pledge to assist MVPC on the project Steering Committee and assistance in site selection/priority-setting. We look forward to building on our existing partnership in the next phase of regional Brownfield assessment and cleanup work. Should you need any additional assistance in application or program support, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

Beverly J. Donovan
Director of Economic Development
Greater Haverhill Chamber of Commerce
80 Merrimack Street
Haverhill, MA 01830
(978) 373-5663
Beverly@haverhillchamber.com
www.haverhillchamber.com



Merrimack Valley Chamber of Commerce

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December 10, 2015

Dennis A. DiZoglio
Executive Director
Merrimack Valley Planning Commission
160 Main Street
Haverhill, MA 01830

Re: FY16 EPA Brownfields Assessment and Revolving Loan Fund Applications of Merrimack Valley Planning Commission


Dear Mr. DiZoglio:

On behalf of the Merrimack Valley Chamber of Commerce, I want to affirm our organization commitment to partnership support with the Merrimack Valley Planning Commission (MVPC) in Brownfields Program outreach to businesses and developers.

The Chamber, with 1,000 members, champions regional efforts at promoting sustainable development and building effective partnerships between business and industry n projects that can make real impact in improving the Merrimack Valley's economic health.

We strongly support the MVPC initiative and the applications to EPA for FY16 Brownfields Assessment Grant and FY16 Revolving Loan Fund recapitalization and pledge to assist MVPC in business community, participation on the project Steering Committee and assistance in site selection/priority-setting. We look forward to building on our existing partnership in the next phase of regional Brownfield assessment and cleanup work. Should you need any additional assistance in application or program support, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,


Joseph J. Bevilacqua
President/CEO
Merrimack Valley Chamber of Commerce
(978) 686-0900

PARTNERSHIP LEVERAGING COMMITMENTS



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99 High Street
Boston, Massachusetts
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800-445-8030
Fax: 617-330-2001

www.massdevelopment.com

December 9, 2015

Mr. Dennis DiZoglio
Executive Director
Merrimack Valley Planning Commission
160 Main Street
Haverhill, MA 01830

Dear Mr. DiZoglio:

I am writing this letter to support the Merrimack Valley Planning Commission's efforts to obtain \$400,000 in FY16 Brownfields Assessment Grant funding and \$1,000,000 to recapitalize the Regional Brownfields Clean Up Loan Fund through the FY16 Revolving Loan Fund Grant program from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. As an Agency that frequently partners with you on advancing economic development projects on Brownfield sites, I am confident that you will use these funds to effectively undertake the redevelopment of contaminated sites throughout the region and leverage scare dollars.

CHARLES D. BAKER
Governor

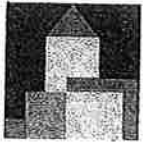
KARYN E. POLIHO
Lieutenant Governor

JAY ASH
Chairman

MARTY JONES
President and CEO

In 1998, the Massachusetts Legislature created the Brownfields Redevelopment Fund to encourage development in economically distressed areas and begin transforming formerly contaminated properties into productive sites for housing, commercial development and open space. As the administrator of the Fund, MassDevelopment has made 630 individual awards to non-profit organizations, municipalities, private developers and other organizations totaling \$78,694,176. However, recapitalization of our Fund remains flat while demand for site assessment funding continues to grow, requiring the Agency to look to partners like the Merrimack Valley Planning Commission to ensure sufficient and ready access to capital for early stage environmental project work.

As funding grows scarcer and project costs continue to rise, municipalities will need access to multiple sources of site assessment and remediation funds. Our ability to jointly contribute funds and technical assistance has enabled the continued advancement of numerous Brownfield redevelopment projects throughout the region including: the Lower Millyard Project (Amesbury), Union Crossing (Lawrence), Coastal Metals (Merrimac), and 29 Elm Street (Salisbury). We also hope to have your continued collaboration as our Agency undertakes the second year of our Transformational Development Initiative which will provide focused attention on districts in Gateway Cities that require accelerated assistance, particularly in Haverhill. Loans and grants of site assessment funds are often the early money, creating the spark that helps attract other resources necessary for the redevelopment of a brownfields site. Without our combined resources, it is likely that these projects may not be realized.



MASSDEVELOPMENT

The Merrimack Valley Planning Commission's Brownfields Program is a regional economic development resource that serves as a substantial complement to our Agency's site assessment and remediation program in helping redevelop underutilized economic development assets. We fully support your efforts to secure these funds so that our Brownfield partnerships can continue for years to come.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Eleni Varitimos', written over a horizontal line.

Eleni Varitimos

Vice President

Community Development



November 25, 2015

Dennis A. DiZoglio, Executive Director
Merrimack Valley Planning Commission
160 Main Street
Haverhill, MA 01830

439 South Union Street, Suite 102
Lawrence, MA 01843
Phone: 978-682-7099
Fax: 978-794-1901

Dear Mr. DiZoglio: *Dennis*

The Merrimack Valley Workforce Investment Board (MVWIB) strongly supports the Merrimack Valley Planning Commission's (MVPC) FY16 applications to EPA for Brownfields Assessment and Revolving Loan Fund Grants. MVWIB pledges to build on the detailed collaboration outlined in our joint 2013 Memorandum of Understanding.

You are on my board and know that the MVWIB serves as the oversight and policy-making body for federally-funded career center, education and training services in Massachusetts' Merrimack Valley. As one of our Board Members, you volunteer to help build employer-responsive work force capacity for sustainable regional development. My staff and I know that you are a key player in fostering MVWIB's strategic partnerships with local leaders in economic development, the K-12 and higher education systems, government, chambers of commerce, community-based and labor organizations.

MVWIB and MVPC's Fall 2013 Local Hiring agreement outlines our mutual commitment to job opportunity for all Merrimack Valley residents. Together we work to ensure that all can participate in the benefits of regional economic development. These include Merrimack Valley Brownfield Assessment and Revolving Fund Clean-Up initiatives usually focused on our region's Gateway Cities (Lawrence, Methuen and Haverhill), all of which have high unemployment as well as environmental issues related to their status as former mill cities.

The MVWIB pledges to continue our job training coordination and contractor employment outreach with MVPC Brownfields Program Manager Joe Cosgrove. Susan Almono, MVWIB's Director of Planning and Coordination, and I look forward to regular communications and information sharing on projects, contracting opportunities and community engagement. This Thanksgiving, please know that we are grateful for MVPC's many contributions to this area.

Sincerely,

Rafael Abislaiman
Executive Director



CITY OF LAWRENCE
OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

City Hall • 200 Common Street • Lawrence, MA 01840
Tel: (978) 620-3010 • www.cityoflawrence.com

DANIEL RIVERA
MAYOR & CEO

7 December 2015

Dennis DiZoglio, Executive Director
Merrimack Valley Planning Commission
160 Main Street
Haverhill, MA 01830

Mr. DiZoglio,

I am writing this letter of support for the Merrimack Valley Planning Commission's (MVPC) applications to the US EPA FY2016 Brownfield Assessment and Brownfields Revolving Loan Fund Grants.

Brownfields redevelopment is central to our community vision of a revitalized, healthy community of work and opportunity. Lawrence is committed to partnership with MVPC and through the City's HUD CDBG and other state/federal development assistance, will leverage other resources in advancing transformation of some of our City's most neglected areas.

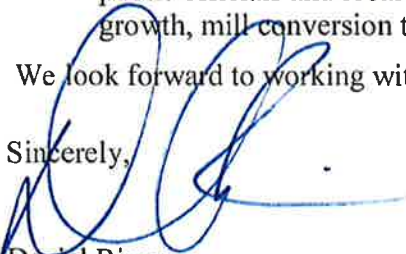
After a difficult economic period, Lawrence is poised to make real progress with a new civic spirit and regional capacity tools for community development including the Brownfields Assessment and financing programs.

The Office of Planning and Development is actively working with developers and stakeholder groups on redevelopment plans that include:

- Tombarello site: 207 Marston St. The 14 acre site contains elevated levels of PCBs and heavy metals in surficial site soils and elevated levels of metals and VOCs in site groundwater. City has initiated Tax Title Taking in District Court.
- Merrimack Street Corridor: project is funded by the MassWorks Infrastructure Program. The funding is awarded to municipalities seeking public infrastructure funding to support economic development and job creation.
- Making A Visible Difference: Lawrence is one of 50 communities where U.S. EPA will focus action and funds in the next two years. This work will be informed by a dialogue on the environmental and public health issues that matter most to these communities.
- North Canal District: encompasses the historic industrial heart of the city. Business leaders, public officials and local residents work together to revitalize the area with economic growth, mill conversion to housing and improved transportation.

We look forward to working with you on this important initiative.

Sincerely,


Daniel Rivera
Mayor and CEO



WILLIAM PILLSBURY, JR., DIRECTOR
TELEPHONE: 978-374-2344 V/TDD
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**CITY OF HAVERHILL
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT**

CITY HALL, ROOM 309
FOUR SUMMER STREET
HAVERHILL, MA 01830-5843

December 16, 2015

Dennis A. DiZoglio, Executive Director
Merrimack Valley Planning Commission
160 Main Street
Haverhill, MA 01830

Re: MV Planning Commission application for Brownfields Assessment funds

Dear Mr. DiZoglio:

The City of Haverhill is proud to be an active partner in the Merrimack Valley Planning Commission's 2015 Brownfields Assessment and Revolving Loan Fund Grant applications to the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

The City of Haverhill is a HUD Entitlement Community that annually receives Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funding. The City is willing to expend up to \$100,000 in CDBG funds to further leverage any EPA grant funds if further assessment or remediation funds are needed to satisfy the needs of these critical redevelopment projects.

Emerging from the Recession, Haverhill features several formerly industrial properties that are ripe for redevelopment, with several sites undergoing active developer scrutiny. With its location, amenities, small town yet urban lifestyle, convenient highway and rail access, and affordability just outside the Greater Boston real estate market, Haverhill is primed for and welcoming of growth.

The City's Riverfront Overlay Zoning and expedited permitting are enhancing active brownfields redevelopment that is leading to actual successes, many along the transformed Merrimack River, once an open industrial sewer and now a burgeoning clean waterway.

Relevant sites that represent active brownfields redevelopment opportunities include:

- **former Hoyt and Worthen Tanning Corporation** complex, a 3.25-acre site of old tanneries and machine shops along the Bradford (south) side of the Merrimack River's banks at 47-60 Railroad Street, with potential hazardous contamination. A proposed residential redevelopment has developer interest;
- **Friends' Landing site**, a 1.2 acre downtown riverfront parcel at 85 Water Street, where a large residential development is planned with a waterfront park and docks, with potential contamination from past industrial use;
- **former Gerson Furniture complex**, a 0.382 acre site at 181-215 Washington Street with several dilapidated storage and showroom facilities that is slated to be demolished and replaced with 44 units of new veterans housing. This site by the Comeau Bridge is suspected of asbestos and lead contamination;

- **Chen's Building**, a 0.2 acre, 10-story vacant mill at 86 Essex Street, featuring suspected petroleum and asbestos contamination. A developer has proposed 62 units of affordable housing at this transit-oriented site, which features off-site parking at a former gas station lot with suspected petroleum issues as well as in the adjacent parking garage by Haverhill's Amtrak Station;
- **former Haverhill Paperboard site**, a 35.7 acre parcel along the Bradford side of the Merrimack River at 90-99 South Kimball Street that housed a paper mill until 2008. This demolished site is now more suitable as a mixed-use residential and retail redevelopment and has active interest, but suspected hazardous and petroleum contamination;
- **Stevens Street Mill sites** include a 4.21 acres with a dam along the Little River, the city's leading tributary into the Merrimack. The **Shain Mill** at 14-16 Stevens Street is highly visible brick edifice along Route 97 was Haverhill's first mill building, and has been seized by the City for tax title issues. It has known asbestos issues and a huge 100,000 gallon UST under its parking lot that provided #6 oil to power the building along with the dam. Next door is the **former Hudson Mill** at 30 Stevens Street, an abandoned brick and wood mill that suffered a 7-alarm blaze in September, 2015. Both sites are being added to the State's 40R Smart Growth zoning district to be redeveloped, and there is much interest.
- **former Ornstein Heel Factory Site** is a 4.162 acre property taken for City tax title along the Merrimack River near the Bradford Commuter Rail Station and Rail Trail. It is demolished, vacant and overgrown, with suspected arsenic and other hazardous contamination. This Railroad Avenue site has developer interest as a riverfront park and affordable housing development. An adjacent privately owned former Getty station at 236 South Elm Street is a 1.3 acre vacant, dilapidated, petroleum-impacted eyesore at the end of the Comeau Bridge, and is being offered along with the city parcels.
- **National Grid** also has several sites along the waterfront that are being decommissioned or revised, opening up over 2.6 acres at 165 Water Street as well as parcels in Bradford.

These sites would all potentially benefit from additional brownfields assessment as part of this application. All of these examples would provide significant economic opportunities as well as protection of the Merrimack.

The City looks forward to being an active participant in the effectuation of any Brownfields grants from the EPA to the MVPC. If you have any further questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,



Andrew K. Herlihy
Division Director, Community Development Department
Brownfields Grants Manager
City of Haverhill

Merrimack Valley Region



Application for Federal Assistance SF-424

* 1. Type of Submission:

- ☐ Preapplication
☒ Application
☐ Changed/Corrected Application

* 2. Type of Application:

- ☒ New
☐ Continuation
☐ Revision

* If Revision, select appropriate letter(s):

* Other (Specify):

* 3. Date Received:

12/17/2015

4. Applicant Identifier:

Merrimack Valley Planning Comm

5a. Federal Entity Identifier:

5b. Federal Award Identifier:

State Use Only:

6. Date Received by State:

7. State Application Identifier:

8. APPLICANT INFORMATION:

* a. Legal Name: Merrimack Valley Planning Commission

* b. Employer/Taxpayer Identification Number (EIN/TIN):

04-2324591

* c. Organizational DUNS:

0526616590000

d. Address:

* Street1:

160 Main Street

Street2:

* City:

Haverhill

County/Parish:

Essex

* State:

MA: Massachusetts

Province:

* Country:

USA: UNITED STATES

* Zip / Postal Code:

01830-5061

e. Organizational Unit:

Department Name:

Environmental Dept.

Division Name:

f. Name and contact information of person to be contacted on matters involving this application:

Prefix:

Mr

* First Name:

Joseph

Middle Name:

* Last Name:

Cosgrove

Suffix:

Title: Environmental Program Manager

Organizational Affiliation:

Merrimack Valley Planning Commission

* Telephone Number:

978-374-0519

Fax Number:

* Email:

jcosgrove@mvpc.org

Application for Federal Assistance SF-424

* 9. Type of Applicant 1: Select Applicant Type:

E: Regional Organization

Type of Applicant 2: Select Applicant Type:

Type of Applicant 3: Select Applicant Type:

* Other (specify):

* 10. Name of Federal Agency:

Environmental Protection Agency

11. Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Number:

66.818

CFDA Title:

Brownfields Assessment and Cleanup Cooperative Agreements

* 12. Funding Opportunity Number:

EPA-OSWER-OBLR-15-05

* Title:

FY16 Guidelines for Brownfields Revolving Loan Fund Grants

13. Competition Identification Number:

Title:

14. Areas Affected by Project (Cities, Counties, States, etc.):

1234-MVPC Region.jpg

Add Attachment

Delete Attachment

View Attachment

* 15. Descriptive Title of Applicant's Project:

Proposal for Brownfields Revolving Loan Fund financing site remediation cleanups at various locations in the 15-community Merrimack Valley planning district region.

Attach supporting documents as specified in agency instructions.

Add Attachments

Delete Attachments

View Attachments

Application for Federal Assistance SF-424**16. Congressional Districts Of:*** a. Applicant * b. Program/Project

Attach an additional list of Program/Project Congressional Districts if needed.

17. Proposed Project:* a. Start Date: * b. End Date: **18. Estimated Funding (\$):**

* a. Federal	<input type="text" value="1,000,000.00"/>
* b. Applicant	<input type="text" value="0.00"/>
* c. State	<input type="text" value="0.00"/>
* d. Local	<input type="text" value="200,000.00"/>
* e. Other	<input type="text" value="0.00"/>
* f. Program Income	<input type="text" value="0.00"/>
* g. TOTAL	<input type="text" value="1,200,000.00"/>

*** 19. Is Application Subject to Review By State Under Executive Order 12372 Process?**

- ☐ a. This application was made available to the State under the Executive Order 12372 Process for review on .
- ☐ b. Program is subject to E.O. 12372 but has not been selected by the State for review.
- ☒ c. Program is not covered by E.O. 12372.

*** 20. Is the Applicant Delinquent On Any Federal Debt? (If "Yes," provide explanation in attachment.)**☐ Yes ☒ No

If "Yes", provide explanation and attach

21. *By signing this application, I certify (1) to the statements contained in the list of certifications and (2) that the statements herein are true, complete and accurate to the best of my knowledge. I also provide the required assurances** and agree to comply with any resulting terms if I accept an award. I am aware that any false, fictitious, or fraudulent statements or claims may subject me to criminal, civil, or administrative penalties. (U.S. Code, Title 218, Section 1001)**

☒ ** I AGREE

** The list of certifications and assurances, or an internet site where you may obtain this list, is contained in the announcement or agency specific instructions.

Authorized Representative:

Prefix: * First Name:

Middle Name:

* Last Name:

Suffix:

* Title: * Telephone Number: Fax Number: * Email: * Signature of Authorized Representative: * Date Signed: